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Dated: 8/17/07

Signature: Joanne Ryan
(Joanne Ryan)

Docket No.: BBNT-P01-248
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Patent Application of:
Tasman et al.

Application No.: 10/649,030

Confirmation No.: 5116

Filed: August 27, 2003

Art Unit: 2143

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
FORWARDING DATA UNITS IN A
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Examiner: A. A. Boutah

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated May 17, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

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§ 103 rejection of claim 28. Amended independent claims 32 and 38 recite similar subject matter. Claims 29-31 and 33-37 depend from claims 28 and 34, respectively, and add further limitations thereto. Therefore applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claims 29-38.

Amended independent claim 45 recites determining when a data unit has reached a head of a transmission queue, and in response, identifying one or more second network interfaces from which the data unit is to be transmitted. The data unit is then moved to the head of each of the identified queues. Reaching the head of a transmission queue is one indicia of a node being ready to transmit a packet. Thus, to the extent that the references fail describe requeuing a data unit in response to determining that the node is ready to transmit the data unit, as agreed by the Examiner, the references also fail to describe the subject matter of claim 45. Thus, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of amended independent claim 45 and claims 46-50 that depend on claim 45.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response other than as reflected on the enclosed Amendment Transmittal. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. BBNT-P01-248 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 17, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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